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DOCKET NO. 10.0405

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of :  
BIAO LU et al. : Group Art Unit: 2666  
Serial No.: 09/919,779 : Examiner : Kevin C. Harper  
Filed: July 31, 2001 :  
For: METHOD OF PROTECTING AS  
AGAINST SPAN FAILURES IN A  
COMMUNICATION NETWORK

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Advisory Action dated March 28, 2006, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows: